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<NOTICE>

<PREAMB>

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended), the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) invites comments on this information collection for which RUS intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michele Brooks, Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1522, Room 5162 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 690-1078. FAX: (202)720-4120. E-mail: michele.brooks@wdc.usda.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that RUS is submitting to OMB for extension.

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Michele Brooks, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 1522, Room 5162, South Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-1522. FAX: (202)720-4120. michele.brooks@wdc.usda.gov .

Title: Weather Radio Transmitter Grant Program

OMB Control Number: 0572-0124

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The National Weather Service operates an All Hazards Early Warning System that alerts people in areas covered by its transmissions of approaching dangerous weather and other emergencies. The National Weather Service can typically provide warnings of specific weather dangers up to fifteen minutes prior to the event. At present, this system covers all major metropolitan areas and many smaller cities and towns; however, many rural areas lack NOAA Weather Radio coverage. The Rural Utilities Service's Weather Radio Transmitter Grant Program finances the installation of new transmitters to extend the coverage of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Weather Radio system (NOAA Weather Radio) in rural America thereby promoting public safety and awareness. The President of the United States and the United States Congress have made \$5 million in grant funds available to facilitate the expansion of NOAA Weather Radio system coverage into rural areas that are not covered or are poorly covered at this time. This grant program will continue to provide grant funds, on an expedited basis, for use in rural areas and communities of 50,000 or less inhabitants. Grant funds are available immediately and applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis until the appropriation is used in its entirety. Grant funds are used to purchase and install NOAA Weather Radio transmitters and antennas that are combined with donated tower space and other site resources to establish new rural NOAA Weather Radio transmitters. Eligible applicants must be non-profit corporations or associations (including Rural Development

Utilities Programs electric and telecommunications borrower cooperatives), units of local or state government, or Federally-recognized Indian tribes.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 hours per response.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions, State, Local or Tribal Government

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 5

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from MaryPat Daskal, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, at (202) 720-7853, FAX: (202) 720-4120. E-mail: marypat.daskal@wdc.usda.gov

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 13, 2013. _____

John Charles Padalino
Acting Administrator
Rural Utilities Service

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